

H. R. 149.

FEBRUARY 21, 1817.

Read twice, and committed to a committee of the whole House on
Monday next.

A Bill

To establish a National Board of Agriculture.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That*
3 there shall be, and hereby is established, at the seat of the
4 government of the United States, a National Board of Agricul-
5 ture, to consist of twenty-four members, to be nominated and
6 appointed, in the first instance, by the President of the United
7 States; which board is hereby authorized to establish auxiliary
8 branches, to consist of twelve members each, in the several
9 States of the Union.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That the said National*
2 Board shall, in case of vacancies in the board, supply the same
3 by election, so as to preserve the number first above-mentioned.
4 And in like manner the auxiliary branches shall, severally,
5 supply the vacancies that may happen in their respective

6 boards. And the said National Board, and the branches
7 thereof, shall respectively appoint presidents of their boards,
8 and such other officers and agents as may be necessary for
9 correspondence, and other objects of the institution.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty
2 of the said National Board, and the branches thereof, to culti-
3 vate and promote the interests of agriculture, in all its various
4 branches, and to cause to be published such useful informa-
5 tion as they may receive, from time to time, with such of their
6 proceedings as may be beneficial to the public. And the said
7 National Board shall hold meetings on the first Monday of
8 every month during the sessions of Congress, and such other
9 meetings as may, by the board, be deemed necessary, or as the
10 president thereof may appoint and notify. And the said
11 branches shall meet at such times and places as they may, for
12 that purpose, appoint and notify.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of
2 dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to
3 defray the expenses of publishing information, and the corres-
4 pondence and proceedings of the institution, as aforesaid, said
5 sum to be paid annually out of any moneys in the Treasury not
6 otherwise appropriated.

1 SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That all correspondence
2 of the presidents, secretaries, and committees of the said Na-
3 tional Board, or branches thereof, upon the subject of agricul-

4 ture, shall, under such regulations as the postmaster general
5 of the United States shall prescribe, be free of postage.

1 Sec. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the Vice-President
2 of the United States, the members of the Senate and House of
3 Representatives thereof, and such other persons as the National
4 Board may appoint, shall be honourary members thereof.